

University of Washington Libraries
Report to ALA Directors of Technical Services of Large Research Libraries
June 2005

We are confident that we will be receiving funding for inflation for the coming year. We plan to conduct a review of our databases and possibly target lower use ones for cancellation to free up funding for other content. We are also negotiating a new contract with Elsevier for Science Direct in conjunction with Washington State University, and hoping for some cancellation leeway.

In conjunction with UW visual resources units and slide libraries, we are building a digital image bank for our three campuses. This spring we conducted a survey to determine needs on campus. We have identified resources to purchase and will be delivering the images via Contentdm with metadata enhanced beyond what the vendor supplies. The image bank will be launched this fall.

There continues to be interest expressed by faculty in contributing to the digital repository. Entering metadata and uploading files is a barrier to their participation, particularly if they have a significant number of articles to contribute. We are looking for solutions to this problem. As for other content for the repository, we are hopeful that the Graduate School, under new leadership and supported by a resolution of the faculty senate, will finally begin work in earnest on an electronic thesis and dissertation program. The Libraries is eager to get a program in place. The Greater Western Library Association, of which we are members, has had a preliminary conversation about creating a couple of subject repositories.

The implementation of the Electronic Resources Management module of III is well underway and we are populating it with information from our license agreements.

The Serials Division conducted a review and reorganization process this year which will result in the disbursement of staff and activities in the Receipts unit to Acquisitions and to Cataloging. The Receipts unit will no longer exist. A search is underway to recruit for an Assistant Head of the Serials Acquisitions Section who will oversee check in, the III module for serials, and other responsibilities such as web master for Serials. The present head of Receipts will move to Cataloging to manage the general processing of serials and to perform cataloging. This spring Steve Shadle became Serials Access Librarian and in addition to maintaining some cataloging responsibilities, he will be managing the load of SerialsSolutions data to III and will assist with other access issues that cut across the functions of acquisitions and cataloging. We are also beginning a project to reclass Dewey periodicals to LC this summer.

This might be of interest to the group. A Leadership Development Interest Group was launched this year, led by Joyce Ogburn and Gordon Aamot, head of the Foster Business Library, with the help of a steering group. The purpose of the Leadership Development Interest Group is to provide Libraries staff with a regular forum for exploring the theme of leadership and its application to our work, and to promote leadership at all levels. All interested staff are invited to participate, not just those who hold management positions. We plan to learn about leadership together as a group by discussing suggested readings from a variety of sources and sharing lessons learned from experiences in and out of libraries. It has been attended by a healthy mix of staff classifications and levels. We have discussed the definition of leadership, the difference

and relationship with management, and the concept of followership. Our next meeting will have two librarians from the UW talk about their experience in the new ARL Leadership Fellows program.

Succession planning is underway, due to my resignation to move to the University of Utah as Director of the Marriott Library September 1. There is no information to share at this time regarding interim leadership of my areas and representation at Big Heads.

Joyce Ogburn